

Solvothermal Synthesis and Photoluminescence of $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ Nanophosphors

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$Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ has been known to be an X-ray phosphor used in practical X-ray intensifying screens and a green phosphor for CRT displays. Synthesis of $Y_2O_3:S:Er$ nanoparticles via flame spray pyrolysis and fluidized-bed sulfurization methods were reported by Bickmore et al.¹ and Niedbala et al.², respectively. However, there has not been any investigation on the synthesis and luminescence of $Y_2O_3:S:R$ ($R = Eu, Tb$) nanophosphors reported in literature.

In an attempt to investigate the quantum confinement effect on the luminescence and potential applications of $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanophosphor, we have synthesized $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanophosphors using a solvothermal route at 150 °C or lower in ethylene diamine or methanol solution. Interestingly, we have observed that the morphology of nano- $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ synthesized from solvothermal reactions is strongly dependent of the solvents used.

The effect of synthetic temperature on the formation of $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanoparticles were first investigated and the results are shown in Fig. 1. As-prepared nano- $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ was found to be amorphous and decent crystallinity appears only when annealed at 500 °C under H_2S atmosphere, as indicated by the XRD profiles.

Shown in Fig. 2 is the TEM micrograph for nano- $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ synthesized solvothermally from a solution of ethylene diamine at 150 °C and further annealed at 500 °C under H_2S for 6 hr. Nanorods of $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ with high aspect ratio (diameter: 40 nm, length: 1.6 μm) were observed. On the other hand, those prepared from methanolic solutions were found to be nearly spherical with size of ca. 20 nm.

The quantum confinement effect on the luminescence intensity was clearly observed in PLE spectra shown in Fig. 3. A blue shift of 5 nm in the absorption band attributed to $Tb^{3+} 4f \rightarrow 5d$ transition has been observed for nanocrystalline as compared to bulk $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$. The observation has been rationalized by quantum size and surface effects.

The effect of surface capping on the luminescence intensity for $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ has also been investigated by treating $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanoparticles with allylamine (Ala) as a capping agent. We have discovered that well-crystalline bulk $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ exhibits much stronger luminescence than Ala-capped nano- $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$, whereas the pristine sample exhibits the weakest. We have demonstrated that the luminescence efficiency of nanophosphors can be effectively improved by surface capping.

References

1. C. R. Bickmore et al. *J. Europ. Ceram. Soc.* **18**, 287 (1988).
2. R. S. Niedbala et al. *Proc. SPIE* 3913, 1605 (2000).

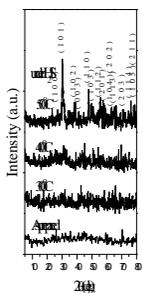


Fig. 1 XRD profiles showing the effect of annealing temperature on the formation of $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanoparticles (as-prepared $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ is poorly crystalline).

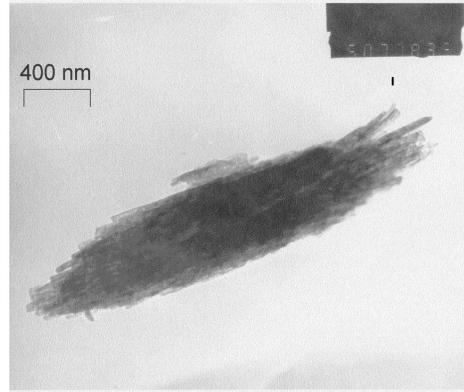


Fig. 2 The TEM micrograph for $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanophosphor.

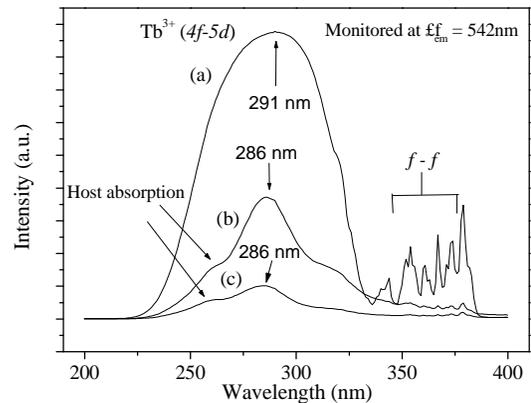


Fig. 3 Comparison of PLE spectra for (a) bulk, (b) Ala-capped- and (c) as-prepared $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$.

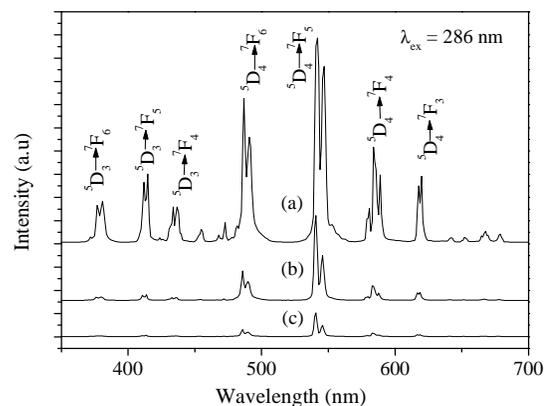


Fig. 4 Comparison of PL spectra for (a) bulk, (b) Ala-capped- and (c) pristine $Y_2O_3:S:Tb$ nanophosphor.

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TEM	相對應 ED	相對應 scale
33	34	1cm=1/3um
35	36	1cm=1/5um
37	38	1cm=1/3um

實驗條件

1. 與學長條件只差在溶劑之不同,本實驗使用 en 為溶劑,除此之外,另使用 allylamin 處理過.
2. 此 cpd 為已經通硫化氫 500 度 6 小時 anneal 過的產物.

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